

The Coin Cabinet

A " " " " "
Magazine for Collectors

MARCH 1906

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The Coin Cabinet

A MAGAZINE FOR COLLECTORS

VOL. I.]

MARCH, 1906

[No. 3.

COINS, ETC., WANTED.

Special Wants of Collectors Entered
in this Column Free of Charge.

"American Journal of Numismatics," full set wanted in perfect condition. "B" this office.

Cincinnati "Copperheads," Store Cards, War Tokens (1861-4); Card-board Promises to Pay, 1861-2; Paper Money, Shinplasters, Wild Cat Money, Bank Note Reporters; "Cinn. Mining and Trading Co." Gold Pieces (\$5 and \$10) Encased Postage Stamps of Cinn. firms; in fact anything pertaining to Cinn. Address with full particulars H. C. Ezekiel, 334 Main Cinn. Ohio.

Priced Copy of Colton Davis Pattern Coin Sale. State price. E. H., this office.

American Journal of Philately for June 1 and 15, 1888; Masons Coin Magazine XIII and XIV ('90 and '91). E. H., this office.

Wanted to exchange Foreign Dollar Silver Coins for those I have not. C. R. Collier, 148 Conklin Ave., Binghampton, N. Y.

Hard Times Tokens. (Lows List) 1-2-5-6-7-11-13-14-15-24-25-26-27-35-40-41-42-43-50-57-70-71-77-79-82-85-86-87-88-89-90-1-3-6-102-5-6-14-18-19-21-7-8-31-3-4-7-8-9-43-4-5-6-7-9-50-1-2-6-7-8-9-60 to 64 inclusive. Good specimens only wanted. M. this office.

Wanted U. S. Cents, one each of 1796-7-8-9-1800-4-9, fair with legible dates. F. G. Hillman, New Bedford, Mass.

Colonial Bills, C. S. A. and Foreign Bill wanted. C. G. Palmer, Onarga, Ill.

Wealth in old coins. Our pocket Coin List gives value of all. W. Rile Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

Canadian Wants Breton 501-3-4-5-9-16-67-654-72-3-703-12-48-58-59-63-65-75-837-46-48-57 (1820) 922-4-34-5-9 (1813) 62 (1812) 68-73-83-99-1000-1-8-12 (1825) must be in fine or good condition.

X this office.

Wanted. Copper and brass coins of South and Central America. Would like to hear from collectors having any for sale or exchange. F. Brown, 901 Main, Worcester, Mass.

Wanted Swedish Crown or 8 Marks of Chas. XI and Crown of Fred. 1. Oscar Engstrom, Smethport, Pa.

Wanted. Canadian Sous in strictly fine condition. Breton, 685-686-696-698-705-706 for cash. S. S. Heal, 22 Larch, Toronto, Can.

Wanted 2½ Dollars Gold, 1796 (16 stars), 1798-1804-06 (over 4 and 5)-8-21-24 (over 21) -26 (over 25) -7-9-30 to 33 inc. 1838 (C) 1839-40 (D) 41 (D)-41 (O)-42-42 (C & D)-44-46 (C & D)-48-49 (C & D)-51 (C) 52 (D & C)-53 (D)-54 (C. O. & S)-55 (C & D)-56 (C & D)-57 (C & D)-51 (C) 52 (C & C)-53 (D)-54 (P & D)-58 (S)-59 (P D & S)-62 (S)-63 to 67 inc. 1868 (S)-72-73 (S)-75-77. Gold Dollar 1854 C 1861 D. Apply Y this office.

Collectors and subscribers are particularly invited to use this column without charge. All "sales" ads. will be charged for at one cent per word.

The Coin Cabinet

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PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER MONTH.

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CHANGES IN THE RARITY OF CANADIAN SOUS.

S. S. Heal.

Among the many coins attributed to Canada, there are none more interesting than the bouquet Sous, typically Canadian in language and design, uniting as they do the two great races that once fought for the mastery of this Continent. The passing years have brought many changes in the value and rarity of coins and the

bouquet Sous have proved no exception to this rule. In 1894 Mr. Breton published his "History of Coins and Tokens relating to Canada," a work which still holds the field, and to which every collector of this series is greatly indebted, and which to-day remains the standard authority on Canadian Coins.

Of the bouquet Sous some have advanced and others have lost a degree in rarity, while others again remain practically the same, and the object of this paper is to show such changes in rarity and value as have taken place. The distinction between the value or Breton's and Le Roux's degrees should always be borne in mind when making comparison of their respective ratings.

Le Roux's degrees while showing the ease or difficulty of procuring the piece mentioned, give no indication of the approximate value of the coin or token, while Breton's degrees have more meaning, his catalogue containing a table which gives the approximate value of each degree, and acting as a guide to the collector interested in the series.

It should be remembered that the minimum and maximum values of any degree, indicate its value in from good to fine condition, a strictly uncirculated R 2½ sou would easily rank as a very good R 3.

Another thing, no catalogue or cataloguer is infallible, and the opinions of different collectors may well vary as to the relative value of any particular sou.

It will be understood that in cases where a sou is found in different metals, in each case it is the value of it in copper that is given below.

For instance, while B. 674 is rated R. 1½, the same sou in brass should be R. 2, and by brass, I mean pure brass and not light copper.

This sou, is found overstruck on other Canadian coins, such as B. 960, 961 and 1012.

I have in my own collection B. 679, 683, 691 and 704 in brass, these while of differing rarity in copper, may all be rated R. 2½ when in brass.

In some cases, where a sou is found with both perfect and broken dies, the value may differ, for instance while 697 with broken die is R. 2 with

perfect die it would be R. $2\frac{1}{2}$; and while 705 Hart variety, is R. $1\frac{1}{2}$, the same sou without the blade between the two thistle heads, should be R. $2\frac{1}{2}$. If the latter variety exists I have yet to see it.

The numbers quoted and values of degrees are as Breton's catalogue 1894 edition.

The following numbers I think might well be changed:

	from	R.2	to	R. $2\frac{1}{2}$
671				
676	"	" $2\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 3
679	"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 1
680	"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 2
684	"	" 2	"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$
686	"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 2
687	"	" 1	"	" 2
688	"	" 1	"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$
693	"	" 1	"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$
695	"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 2
696	"	" $2\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 3
698	"	" $2\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 3
700	"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 2
704	"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 1
706	"	" $2\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 3
708	"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 2
710	"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 2
711	"	" $1\frac{1}{2}$	"	" 2

UNPUBLISHED COINS OF CILICIA.

Editor of The Coin Cabinet.

Mr. Newell's letter in your January issue is quite interesting only he should have called attention to the following facts:

First. The coin of Mopsus is not unpublished. Head refers to coins of Augustus from this city. Vid *Historia Nummorum* (p. 608) and his citations from the *Revue Numismatique* for 1854 and the *Zeitschrift fur Numismatik* (X 294).

Second. The City of Augusta was situated between Anazarbus (not Anazarlius) and Hieropolis. The Imperial Coinage is common, beginning with Augustus and ranging to the middle of the third century. Such being the case I think that it is a bold assumption to claim that any type bearing the head of either Hadrian or Aelius is unpublished, until the great catalogues of the British, German, French, and Russian collections have been thoroughly examined.

Third. These remarks apply also to the third coin on the list. The earliest specimen in the British Museum may

be one of Trajan, but the Imperial Coinage of the city dates from the time of Nero. I very much doubt whether the piece mentioned by Mr. Newell is autonomous as many of these coins have on the obverse simply a helmeted head to the right or left and on the reverse the name of the city with representations of Ares, Hermes, etc. Conf *Hirsch Catalogue XIV. No. 4363*.

A. R. FREY, F.R.N.S.

Editor Coin Cabinet. Referring to the first "fact" as given by Mr. Frey.

First. Mr. Frey states that my coin of Augustus struck at Mopsus is not unpublished, and then gives as authorities the works mentioned by Head in his *Historia Nummorum*; namely the "*Zeitschrift fur Numismatik*" and the "*Revue Numismatique*." If he had looked these up he would have found that in the former no mention of any coin whatsoever of Augustus is made. In the latter my particular coin is also not described.

Second. Mr. Frey calls attention to the mistake in the spelling of Anazarbus which is purely a typographical error which escaped the proof reader. He also says that "it is a bold assumption on my part to say that a coin is unpublished until the great Catalogues of the British, German, French and Russian collections have been thoroughly examined." I certainly have done so as far as possible. Not one of the three coins described is to be found in the British Museum Catalogue. Catalogues of the coins of Cilicia have not yet been published either of the Berlin, the St. Petersburg or the Paris collections. As for private collections I have searched through their catalogues both big and little; such as the Hunterian Catalogues, the *Numismata Hellenica* of Leake, Waddington, Wellenheim, d'Ennery, also *Musea Nazionale* of Naples and many other smaller ones. Besides this I have gone through and searched the "*Numismatic Chronicle*" "*Zeitschrift fur Numismatik*," "*Revue Numismatique Francaise*," "*Revue Belge de Numismatique*," "*Revista Italiana*," etc., to say nothing of Eckhel, Mionnet and Butowski-Glinka.

Third. Mr. Frey says that he doubts if my coin of Syedra is an "autonomous" coin. Now by "Autonomous" as

applied to Greek Coins is meant any one bearing neither the portrait or the name of any Roman Emperor. Autonomous coins may be struck before or after the founding of the Roman Empire, it doesn't matter provided the Roman Emperor is not portrayed or his name given but only that of the City or State in which this coin was struck. This implies that the city alone supervised its coinage and not (nominally) the Roman Emperor. Now the bust on the little coin of Syedra is plainly that of Athene, bearing as it does a Corinthian helmet, long hair, and an Aegis on her breast. No Roman Emperor is mentioned or in the least wise referred to. The coin may be struck after Augustus' coming to the Imperial dignity, but that does not make it any the less an autonomous coin.

E. T. NEWELL, F.R.N.S.,

Yale University, '07.

Editorial Comment.—When two such eminent Fellows of the R.N.S. so thoroughly disagree, we think that the pendulum of belief should, in preference, swing towards the student and traveler rather than towards the layman whose knowledge has been stunted and repressed by the environment of locality.

GOLD COINAGE OF SCOTLAND.

By Donald Morgan, LL.D.

(Continued from Jan. No.)

In the second coinage of James IV (1496-1512) the "Unicorns" return in exactly the same types as in James III coinage, weight 59 and $29\frac{1}{2}$ grains, fineness 21 carats and are of exceeding rarity. During the short reign of James V (1514-42) there were three coinages, first, 1517, second 1525, third 1539-40. During 1517-24 only the "unicorn" was struck and it is well nigh impossible to distinguish them from those of the preceding monarch. The second coinage however turned up two new values, the Ecu ($52\frac{1}{2}$ g) and "Ryal" (280 g) as well as our old friend the St. Andrew, but it is extremely likely that the two former were only patterns as the "Ryal" is a perfect representation in gold of the groat of James' third coinage. The St. Andrew did not vary much from its predecessors. During the III coinage

three new values appeared viz. "Bonnet piece" and its brothers the 2-3 and 1-3.

On these the king wears a bonnet, with a necklace of thistles around his neck, on the reverse always the Scotch arms. The weights were $88\frac{1}{2}$, 59, $29\frac{1}{2}$ with again 23 carats as regards fineness. All of the coins of this monarch are extremely rare except the Ecu and Bonnet of 1540 which can be classed as rather common for the former and very scarce for the latter. Next comes Mary I (1542-1567) with her multiplicity of coinage as follows: Ecu ($52\frac{1}{2}$) twenty shilling piece (43) Lion ($78\frac{3}{4}$) Half Lion ($39\frac{3}{8}$) Ryal (118) Half Ryal (59) Ducat (118). The Ecu was $21\frac{1}{2}$ carats, the 20 shilling piece 23 and all the rest 22 carats fine. The majority of the coins of Mary are excessively rare, the Ecu and Lion being the most likely to be obtained. The coins of James VI (1567-1625) may be divided into two great periods comprising those struck previous to his ascending the English throne in 1603 and those struck after that date. Period I seven in number. First (1595-6) £ 20-piece, King's bust right with drawn sword, reverse Arms of Scotland ($472\frac{1}{2}$ grains, $22\frac{1}{2}$ carats). Second (1580) Noble, bare head left, ruff around neck, reverse Scotch Arms ($94\frac{1}{2}$ grains, 21 carats). Third (1584-8) 1-3, 2-3, 1 "Lion," lion crowned holding sword, reverse 4 crowned cyphers. ($78\frac{3}{4}$ - $52\frac{1}{2}$ - $26\frac{1}{4}$ grains, $21\frac{1}{2}$ carats). Fourth, (1588) Thistle Noble, ship bearing flag, reverse rose (118 grains, 23 7-12 carats, highest known fineness in a Scotch coin). Fifth (1591-3). Hat-piece, bust right wearing high crowned hat, reverse lion (70 grains, 22 carats). Sixth (1593-1601) Rider, half-rider, King in Armour, reverse Scotch arms crowned ($78\frac{3}{4}$ - $39\frac{3}{8}$ grains, 22 carats). Seventh (1601-3) "Sword and Sceptre." "Half-Sword and Sceptre." Scotch Arms crowned, reverse sword and sceptre crossed ($79\frac{3}{4}$ - $39\frac{3}{8}$ grains, 22 carats). The coins of the first period are mostly excessively rare except the Thistle Noble, Rider and the Sword-and-the-Sceptre piece. During Period II there were two coinages. First, 1605; second, 1610. In the first coinage were struck the "Sceptre," "Double Crown," "Britain Crown," "Half Crown," "Thistle Crown" which were

of a uniform fineness of 22 carats with a variance of weight from 154¾ grains for the "Sceptre" to 31 grains for the "Thistle Crown" and all are scarce. In the second coinage were the "Unit," "Double Crown," "Britain Crown," "Half Crown," "Thistle Crown." It will be noted that in the coins of this period in the coat of Arms Scotland occupies two quarters and this was observed on all subsequent Scotch coinages both in gold and silver. The majority of the coins of this period are extremely rare except Unit and Thistle crown. We now come to the reign of Chas. I (1625-49) during which there were two coinages first, 1625; second, 1635. In first coinage we have the Double Angel, Double Crown or Angel, and the Five-Merk Piece. The Thistle Crown and Half Crown were also ordered but no specimens exist. The coins that were issued only differ in name from coins of James VI. In second coinage we find the Unit, half, quarter and eight unit of which only the unit is common, all the other coins of this coinage as well as those of the first period being extremely rare. Concluding this most interesting series we must perforce mention the gold coinage of William II even though they do not properly belong to the coins of Scotland, yet being struck from gold sent by the Scottish African Company from the colony of Darien, they can with propriety be mentioned. They were struck in 1701 and consisted of the "Pistole and Half-Pistole. Of most beautiful workmanship, they bore on the obverse, the King's head, left, under which the sun is rising from the sea. On the reverse the Royal Arms but bearing in pretence the Arms of Nassau. They were all of 22 carats fineness and weighed 106 grains and 53 grains respectively. The pistole which is rare passed for £12 Scotch and the Half Pistole which is excessively rare for £6 Scotch. Looking back over the gold coinage it may be observed that with the Thistle Noble of James VI the height of beauty and fineness both of alloy and type was reached and that afterwards while the purity did not appreciably diminish, yet with the exception of the special coin of William II they were greatly inferior in workmanship to those of England.

UNITED STATES DOLLARS.

(Haseltine's Type Table up to Date.)

1798—No. 11; lower star on left nearer hair; date rather closer and smaller; star not quite so close to Y as in No. 10; otherwise very similar; this die shows a crack from chin to milling through points of lower star on right; rev., very similar to No. 10, but points of upper 2 stars on left just touch clouds; 2 upper berries in olive branch close together; eagle's claw nearly directly over thick part of A in "America;" 13 perfect arrows; leaf points to space between R & I in "America;" star not near the eagle's beak.

1798—No. 12; wide date; 8 further from bust than in any of preceding; position of stars same as No. 10; but letters in "Liberty" closer; rev., 2 upper centre stars wide apart, as in Nos. 4, 5, 6, and general appearance same as in those numbers, but all upper stars a little closer to clouds; eagle's claw farther from A; 13 perfect arrows; leaf points to lower edge of I nearest C in "America;" 1 point of star touches lower part of eagle's beak.

1798—No. 13; obv., same as No. 10; rev. very similar to No. 3; position of stars very nearly the same, excepting that the centre star of the 3 extending from back of eagle's head to clouds is out of line more towards ribbon; the clouds under "of" are much lighter than in No. 3; the leaf, instead of pointing between R & I, points to the bottom of I on side nearest R in "America;" only 10 arrows in eagle's claw.

1798—No. 14; obv., very similar to No. 11, but lower star on left closer to hair and 8 in date a little closer to bust; rev., the position of stars, eagle's claw and branch same as in No. 4, but the F in "of" is over the space between the 2 clouds, and the stem of branch turns down; the 2 upper berries in branch not quite so close as in No. 4; star does not touch eagle's beak.

- 1798—No. 15; wide date; very similar to No. 12 excepting that 8 in date is trifle nearer bust and star nearer L in "Liberty;" letters in Liberty not so close together; rev., same as No. 11.
- 1798—No. 16; wide date; very similar to No. 12; the letters in "Liberty" close together, but 8 in date is little nearer bust and star not so near L; rev., same as No. 11; very rare variety.
- 1798—No. 17; very wide date; 8 in date touches bust; star very close to L; letters in Liberty wide apart; lower star left rather near hair; rev., similar to No. 6; only 10 arrows in eagle's claw; no other sticks show; this presumably is from same; rev. die as No. 6 as it shows break connecting lower parts of first A in "America;" excessively rare variety.
- 1798—No. 18; very wide date; very similar to No. 10, but wide date and star closer to L in "Liberty;" lower star on right a little farther from bust; rev., very similar to No. 13 the most noticeable differences being the centre star of the 3 on right extending from back of eagle's head to clouds instead of line away from the scroll towards it; the clouds are heavier under "of" but claw and branch are in nearly the same position as No. 13; 13 perfect arrows; excessively rare variety.
- 1798—No. 19; wide date; similar to No. 14; letters in Liberty trifle closer and lower star left not so close to hair, slight crack extends through E in "Liberty" across bust to the milling through 1 in date; rev., very similar to No. 13 but the left claw of eagle is nearer to U in "United" than in either Nos. 13 or 18 and stars on left are not so near clouds; 13 arrows; very rare variety.
- 1798—No. 20; obv. same as No. 18; rev. same as No. 3; scarce variety.
- 1798—No. 21; obv., same as 18; rev., almost exactly like No. 13, but clouds heavier under "of" and showing an additional stick to bunch of 10 arrows; very scarce.
- 1798—No. 22; wide date; 8 in date touches bust; stars not so close to L & Y in "Liberty" as in No. 17; rev., same as 18; die cracked through E in States.
- 1798—No. 23—Obv. of 22. Rev., 19, rare.
- 1798—No. 24; obv. of 14; rev., 2 upper stars in centre partly in clouds and weakly struck; break in die makes end of olive branch extend to milling; point of upper part of eagle's beak touches point of star.
- 1798—No. 25; close date; similar to 14 but lower star on left farther from hair, and lower stars on right nearer to bust; letter in "Liberty" close together; rev., same as 24 but crack in die from end of branch is very slight.
- 1798—No. 26; close date; 8 in date much higher than other figures and entirely out of position; rev. 4 of upper stars on left and center touch clouds; 11 arrows and 2 sticks; leaf in olive branch points to center of I; eagle's claw very near letter A but not over it.
- 1798; No. 27; obv. same as 26; rev. as 11.
- 1798—No. 28; obv. same as 26, break in die runs from lowest star on left to milling under figure 9 and then up through the 9; this is slightly noticeable in No. 26; rev., 3 stars on left form a triangle; centre star of the 3 on right, extending from back of eagle's head to clouds is depressed inward; all the upper stars are not very near clouds; the leaf in the olive branch points to the ends of I nearest to C in "America" the end of the branch curves slightly towards the tail of eagle.
- 1798—No. 29; obv. same as 28; rev. same as 12.
- 1798—No. 30; obv., same as 28; rev., very similar to 11 except that center star of 3 on right bulges outward towards ribbon; eagle's claw a little nearer A and stars are not near clouds; point of upper part of eagle's beak just touches point of star. Very rare variety. Next issue of this paper will treat of varieties of 1799 dollars—Nos. 1 to 12 inclusive.

(To be Continued.)

CENTS OF 1794.

Hays' No. 16.—Obv. same as No. 15. Rev. six berries to left branch and 7 to right; end of right ribbon distant from A and left equally distant from U of UNITED and I of 100; first T in STATES a trifle high, C in CENT shorter than E and T lower than N. This rev. is found with a slender crack in die through UNIT of UNITED. R.1.

No. 17.—A human-ear-shaped depression in the hair, below the ear at back of neck, is peculiar to this variety; the lower curl ends with a sharp inward curve; L and R of LIBERTY are equally distant from cap and head; date is wide, I near to hair, 4 close to bust. This obverse is slightly cracked from L in LIBERTY through bust to milling near 4 in date. Rev. Six berries to left and seven to right branch; C in CENT too small; both A's in AMERICA high, the first one slightly out of position to left and distant from M; numerator of fraction is tall and touches dividing line to left of center. R.1.

No. 18.—Obv., upper locks short and coarse, lower ones fine; LIBERTY widely spaced with L far from cap and R from hair; the date is small and distant from hair and bust, the 4 is short. The die cracked from near Y to nose and diagonal break extends along the cap through the head near ear to end of pole and milling. Rev. same as 17. R.4.

No. 19. Obv. Two short locks abruptly terminate in truncated angle just below the pole of cap; next lower one is separated from hair, the others long and wavy. LIBERTY and date both close to milling, the former distant from cap and head, and the latter with I and 4 distant from central figures. Rev. Small wreath bearing seven dot-like berries on each side. In CENT, C is small, the center dot touches first perpendicular of N; the wreath stems are short. This rev. is found with a double break, one from milling between A and T of STATES curves into O of ONE, the other passes through D of UNITED to top of C in CENT, then curves into N of ONE. R.1.

No. 20.—Obv. Same as No. 19. Rev. 6 berries on each branch; C in CENT small, bows distant above knot; first

and last A in AMERICA distant from M and C; stems to wreath and fractional line longer than same in rev. of 19, left bow is distant from lower berries. R.2.

No. 21. Obv. The hair is very scant and terminates in thin broken locks. LIBERTY large and close to milling, distant from cap and head; date large, wide and curved, with 1 and 4 about equally distant from hair, bust and milling; pole distant from bust. Rev. Wreath has 5 berries to left and 6 to right branch; in AMERICA, A is distant from M and I from C. All other letters in legend correctly spaced; dividing line of fraction long. This rev. is usually found with breaks in die from milling through first S in STATES to E in CENT, from milling through E in STATES to top of left wreath another faintly visible from E in ONE touching T in CENT to berry on right wreath; there is also a short break to left of O in OF. R.1.

No. 22.—Obv. same as No. 21. R. Center dot on first stand of N in CENT; light berries to left half of wreath, of which two dot-like ones touch the stem of upper leaf; the two lower ones are entirely under left ribbon bow and nearer the knot than usual; on right branch there are seven berries, the top one without a stem; dividing line of fraction very short. E and R in AMERICA are close, all other letters are correctly spaced. R.1.

No. 23.—Obv. The hair terminates in 8 locks, the lower one pointing directly to top of I in date; the 9 is large, the 4 small and distant from bust. LIBERTY well spaced, near milling; L and R distant from cap and head. This obv. is found with and without the bases of the letters indented. Rev., berries small, six to each branch, the upper one on left branch very small, attached to stem of upper leaf, distinctly seen with a good glass. I in UNITED low and second T in STATES low and distant from E.

In AMERICA, A M E and R I C widely spaced with C low and the point of its bottom curve almost touching A. The I in fraction is short and distant from long slender dividing line. L.1.

(To be Continued.)

AUCTION ROOM ETHICS.

The editors of this Journal having asked me to prepare, as a person best qualified to do so from my vast experience at auction sales, a code of ethics and deportment for use at sales, I cheerfully consented and herewith present it for the instruction and edification of the coin world.

1. When attending a sale always procure beforehand a large supply of "mackerel perfecto" cigars (can be readily obtained at 50c per barrel) or Sweet Caporal cigarettes and commence smoking while examining the coins and never leave off till the auctioneer says "Thank you, gentlemen." This will give you the appearance of being wealthy; in fact, simply confagrating Mazuma.

2. Before going to a sale carefully select all your duplicates and junk and place in a hand satchel. When you see a man looking at any coin that you have a duplicate of, approach him softly, call him one side and sell it to him if you can. This will help the auctioneer to get through quicker and will make the cataloguer feel friendly. This idea originated in New Haven, I am informed, but seems spreading a trifle west.

3. Or still better, if you have a store and some stock and you see a man looking at a coin, say "I can do better and cheaper at my store after sale, so don't bid on that." This idea originated in Pittsburg and seems to have few disciples.

4. Or better still. Claim everybody who visits an auction as "my old customer and I won't stand for his buying anything that I might have to exchange afterwards, so come to my place and I will sell you an uncirculated one." This cannot fail but make a hit with everybody within 40 miles and is getting very popular.

5. After a coin is struck off to the highest bidder, suddenly wake up and demand that it be put up again. The auctioneer will probably not comply but it will give you the appearance of being a large buyer.

6. If a coin according to your view is not up to catalogue or you have any doubts of its genuineness don't fail to call attention to it during the sale. This will help in two ways, it will give you the appearance of being an ex-

pert and at the same time lower the price of the coin so that you can take a chance at it.

7. After having bought 75c worth be the first at the clerk's desk with a bill of large denomination and clamor for "immediate settlement as I want to catch a train." This will help everybody connected with the sale and give you the appearance of "being there with the goods."

8. Before the sale or just as the coins are being retired from exhibition come in with a rush, paw over all the envelopes, disarrange everything in sight and then remark "No, it wasn't what I thought it was." This will result in Lot 14 going to Canada and Lot 15 to Mexico, and will fill the office force of the man who is holding the sale with so much love for you that you will live forever (in To-phet).

If these few rules are strictly adhered to the cataloguer will be so pleased to have you at his sale that he will mail you five catalogues to five different cities where he is sure you are not so that you will be certain to not get them.

Yours for the pen,
PERFECT S. WINE.

CHINA'S NEW COINS TO BE LIKE WESTERN MONEY.

Pekin, March 3.—The proposed change in the Chinese coinage is a further sign of Celestial progress. The old bronze coins with the square hole in the middle are to give place to copper coinage similar to that used in Western countries.

On one side of the new coins the designation will be in Latin letters, and the value will be written in Arabic numerals. The inscription will also be in Latin characters, thereby considerably assisting those who are not familiar with the mysteries of Chinese script. On the reverse side the value will be set forth in Chinese characters and numerals, with the name of the province in which the coin has been minted.

Machines for minting are being made in Germany and will displace the old system which was nothing more complex than a series of hammers which beat out the curious old coins and strung them on string.

MONEY USED BY SAVAGES.

Stone Currency of the Pellews—Shell as Medium of Exchange.

Many savage tribes know no commerce except the direct exchange of one useful object for another, but numerous other tribes have experienced the necessity of facilitating business by the creation of a standard currency which enables exchanges to be made indirectly and at any time. This money varies greatly in character in different places, writes Henry Coupin in "La Science au XXme Siecle." Sometimes it has only an arbitrary value, sometimes it is also available for use as ornaments, or otherwise.

The money most commonly employed by primitive peoples consists of useful objects. Examples are: Slaves (in Africa and New Guinea); cattle (reindeer among the Lapps), salt (in Laos), furs (in Siberia), cloth (in Africa), shells, beads, feather and other ornaments, and even various articles of food.

If the money is not useful in itself it must naturally be composed of rare materials. "Thus the Pellew islanders," says M. Deniker, "carefully preserve as current money (andou) a certain number of obsidian or porcelain beads and prisms of terra cotta, imported no one knows when or how, which have very high values. One tribe possesses a single prism of clay (called baran) which is regarded as a public treasure. In the neighboring island of Yap the place of money is taken by blocks of aragonite, a mineral which is not found in the island but is brought from the Pellews. The value of a block is proportional to its size, a thousand franc note (\$200) being represented by a huge disk which two men can hardly carry. These stones serve rather to flatter the vanity of the wealthy natives, who exhibit them in front of their huts, than to facilitate barter."

But this is an exceptional case. Usually preference is shown for more convenient objects which combine a maximum of value with a minimum of weight. For example, the Chorchon and Bannock Indians of Idaho and Montana use teeth of the wapiti deer as money. For the same reasons Scandinavian tribes, like the ancient Car-

thaginians, employ as money the skins and the Michmis make use of the skulls of animals, while the money of the Loyalty Islands consists of ropes made of fox hair, which may be cut to any desired length. The Mexicans formerly made extensive use of cacao beans and this sort of money is not yet entirely obsolete, despite modern facilities of communication.

Shells are often used as money. According to M. Deniker, the tooth shell or "elephant's tusk" is thus employed by the Indians of northwestern America. The wampum beads of the tribes of the eastern United States are made of the shells of *Venus mercenaria*, a species akin to the cockles.

But of all shells the cowry is most used as money.—From N. Y. Sun.

ANCIENT THEATRICAL PROGRAMMES.

Theatre programmes were known even in ancient times, though they were then of a very peculiar construction. In Greece and Rome they consisted of small tablets, which were handed out to the audience at the entrance. Those occupying the best seats obtained programmes beautifully worked in ivory, while those occupying the cheaper seats were given tablets in bronze.

The bronze tablets were distinguished by a dove worked in the metal, and the term "piccionerio," used in Italy to-day as designating the lower priced seats in the theatre, dates from this antique custom.

COREAN NICKELS.

Since the Korean government conceived the brilliant idea of establishing a nickel currency as a substitute for the small shells which before had served the modest requirements of the inhabitants, Mr. Ernest F. G. Hatch, in "Far Eastern Impressions," says a flourishing counterfeit coin industry has been carried on in Japan with great profit. To what extent these spurious nickels have been imported from Japan into Korea, Mr. Hatch says may be gained from a recent consular report, wherein it is stated that quotations are current for (1) government nickels; (2) first class counterfeits; (3) medium counterfeits; and (4) those passable only after dark.

THE COIN CABINET.

COINS ILLUSTRATE HAIR'S FASHIONS.

(Special Cable to N. Y. Herald.)

London.—“When women like each other they kiss, when they love they do one another's hair.”

Lady Evans, in a paper read the other night to the members of the Numismatic Society of London cited this ancient gauge of affection women cherish for members of their own sex. The lecturer dilated upon the subject of hairdressing, as illustrated on Roman coins, in the most interesting manner.

When the men of the audience, who predominated largely, heard that in ancient Rome the members of their sex were occasionally effeminate enough to cover their heads with nets of golden thread; that they cut off their abundant locks as an offering to Neptune, when they were overtaken by a choppy sea and did not despise the vanity of false tresses; when they learned that the great Caesar affected his laurel wreath in season and out of season because of the covering it afforded his scantily furnished poll, they did not turn a hair, but when the mention of saffron dyes for woman's crown of glory was made, owing to the predilection their sweethearts then evinced for blond beauties, a flicker of tolerant indulgence overspread their countenances.

The women listeners present were speedily convinced by the very excellent illustrations of coins of the periods. Lady Evans had chosen for her text that the foundation of all the smartest coiffures Paris has now to offer is to be found on the money that circulated in ancient Rome, when the heads of the goddesses and great women of those days were exhibited in frequent repetition.

The goddess Diana provides an example of the stately diadem, affected only lately under the more modern pseudonym of the Marguerite plait and the knot or chignon above the nape of the neck.

Cleopatra displays on the coin of the realm the oft-repeated fillet, which still remains so simple and refined, and all over Europe this pattern remains the model for all.

THE NEW CHINESE COINAGE.

(N. Y. Sun, Jan. 5, '06.)

A series of regulations to control the new coinage in China was passed by imperial decree on November 19 last. Three new subsidiary silver coins are provided for and the composition of the ku-ping tael, the silver standard of the Chinese Empire, is fixed at approximately nine parts of pure silver to one part of pure copper.

After the entry into circulation of these four silver coins, the Imperial Treasury and the various provincial treasuries and Government offices will receive them in payment for duties and taxes.

The foreign representatives in Peking will be officially notified by the Board of Foreign Affairs in conformity with the stipulations of the new commercial treaties with foreign powers, when the new coins are ready, so that they may be used by foreign merchants for the payment of duties at the treaty ports.

The viceroys and governors will each establish an official bank at their respective capitals with as many branches as possible in large cities and towns for supplying the new coin, to prevent imposition on the people when they are first put into circulation.

PIKE'S PEAK CENTENNIAL MEDALS.

Washington, March 9.—The House to-day passed a bill authorizing the Zebulon Montgomery Pike Monument Association to issue souvenir medallions in aid of securing an adequate celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the discovery of Pike's Peak.

COLUMBUS NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Columbus O., Dec. 27, 1905.—Eight enthusiastic collectors met at the house of Dr. J. M. Henderson in response to a call to organize a Numismatic Society. At that meeting a temporary organization was effected and on Jan. 10th the Columbus Numismatic Society was launched. R. T. King, president; H. E. Buck, vice-president; A. B. Coover, curator and librarian; Dr. J. M. Henderson, secretary and treasurer.



SAYINGS
OF
THE WISE
LITTLE BIRD

We are late this month, but we are glad to say that the six round contest between our Editor in Chief and Monsieur La Grippe was decided in favor of the former, though he was very groggy at the finish.

Numismatists are offering \$1,000 apiece for silver dollars of 1905. This isn't strange for the season. Any man possessing a solitary yen of any old year can get bids on it.

Rare specimens of a silver groat and silver penny of Richard II. have been dug up at High Wycombe, Bucks, England.

The collection of Claas Denekas, who died recently, has been presented to the National Museum. The collection abounds in rare freaks.

Already counterfeit 1905 dollars have turned up, and they are excellent imitations of the real thing. Don't get stuck, however, as there were none struck by the Mint.

The Great Mogul (?) says: "I never put 'numismatist' after my name, but I forget more about coins every morning before breakfast than these alleged numismatists ever knew." Wonder who he meant, Raffles?

It is rumored that a monthly magazine devoted to the collecting of coins, etc., will be shortly issued by one of the Younger Bros. It will be remembered that they were at one time great coin collectors, but of recent years their sphere of influence has been somewhat limited. The date of issuance of the Jesse James weekly has not yet been set.

Bro. Osborne, of Ohio, has discovered that he too possesses a 1795 Dollar H No. 8. This makes three that are known up to date.

ACTUAL QUARTERS.

The quarter of a dollar is merely a term for a complete coin nowadays, but in the early coinage a quarter meant a quarter of a coin, for in those times the idea of various valuations had not gained ground, and the newly minted coins were marked into quarters by a cross that the token might be divided when it was necessary to make change.

This cross, moreover, was supposed to bring the blessings of Heaven upon the owner and to avert ill fortune, and for a long time subsequent to the coinage of fractional currency the coins were thus marked.

At present only the English florin is thus marked although the coins of some of the Catholic countries bear crosses in their designs.

FOR NEW "GOLD" BILLS.

Washington, Feb. 14.—The House Committee on Banking and Currency to-day authorized a favorable report on the Fowler bill to empower the Secretary of the Treasury to issue gold certificates in denominations of \$5 and \$10.

The report of the committee was unanimous. The purpose of the bill as explained by Mr. Fowler is to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to replace the \$5 silver certificates with the gold certificates, and thus be in a position to confine the issue of silver certificates to \$1 and \$2 denominations, meeting the demands of business for small bills.

\$.0001.

The smallest coin in actual circulation is a sort of wafer made from a resinous juice and used by the natives in the Malay peninsula. It has a value of one ten-thousandth of one cent.

The smallest metal coin is the Portuguese three reis piece, worth six-twenty-fifths of a cent, while the smallest English coin is a Gibraltar piece, the five millesima, worth one-quarter of a cent. There has been put into use in the canal zone a small silver coin worth about one penny, and this is probably the smallest silver piece ever coined.

COMING SALES.

In April G. C. Adams will sell the collection of H. F. Dawson, of New York City.

Amsterdam, Holland, March 26 and following days, J. Schulman will sell the collection of Joaquim Jose Judice Dos Santos, first part moneys and medals of Portugal and Colonies a most important sale of 2,419 lots.

In March St. Louis Stamp & Com. Co. will sell in Chicago the superb collection of Geo. W. Rice, of Detroit. Catalogue should be sent for.

PAST SALES.

Jan. 16—Lyman H. Low sold the collection of coins the property of Geo. W. Lewis and others. Sale well attended. Best prices, fractional currency shield, \$10.50; 1799 cent, \$12.50; 1865 \$3 gold, \$10. No. of lots, 503.

Jan. 23.—C. F. Libbie & Co. sold in Boston the collection of G. R. Barrett, 572 lots; 1794 half dime, fine, brought \$7.25.

Feb. 27.—G. C. Adams sold "The Coast to Coast" collection; number of lots, 700; best prices, 90c; encased stamp, \$50. Pagoda (gold) of Anagundi, \$9.50; Flying Eagle cent \$8.10.

Feb. 27.—Lyman H. Low sold the collection of Messrs. May & Sturgis, 656 lots. Best prices, cent 1828, \$8.75; mohur of Akbar 1st \$9, and mohur of Jaunpur, \$7.25.

BOOKS FOR SALE.

Frossard, Eduard. Franco-American Jetons, fully described and illustrated by superb plates, 8vo., 16pp., paper, only 100 copies printed; invaluable to the student of American and Canadian coins. Price, post paid, \$1.25.

Betts, C. W. American Colonial History, as illustrated by Contemporary Medals and Coins. Edited by W. T. R. Marvin and Lyman H. Low. 332pp., large 8vo., cloth, 182 illustrations of Obvs. and Revs. of 625 Medals. The standard authority of the world and indispensable to the student of American history. Price, post paid, \$2.00.

Smith, A. M. Encyclopedia of the Gold and Silver Coins of the World, Ancient, Medieval, Modern; 6,000 illustrations; Phila., 1886, 551pp., royal

8vo., cloth. Price, post paid, \$5.00.

Adams, G. C. American Coin Book. Prices paid for all kinds of American Coins, Paper Money, Colonials, etc. 36pp., paper, post paid, 12c. The largest and best in the market.

Adams, G. C. Canadian Coin Book. Prices paid for rare Canadian Coins. Post paid, 10c.

Masonic. Descriptive Catalogue of Masonic Antiquities and Curios, Coins and Medals in the collection of the Grand Lodge, F. & A. M., State of N. Y. Profusely illus. superb half-tone plates. 8vo., paper, 300pp., post paid, \$2.00.

Shinkle, C. H., U. S. Coin Values and lists being a compendium of the auction prices paid for every American Coin during 1903-05, 8vo., 16pp., paper; a very important work. Post-paid, \$1.00.

Virginia Coinage, Proof that it was by Legislation and Royal Authority, by Chas. T. Tatman, 12c post paid.

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